

Message Text

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43

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 041225Z AUG 75 ZFF-6

FM USDEL SECRETARY IN BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTO 08134

EXDIS

EO11652 GDS

TAGS: BE CG EAID EFIN

SUBJ: BELGIAN REQUEST FOR INTERNATINAL AID TO ZAIRE

1. DURING AUGUST 1 BILATERAL MEETING WITH BELGAIN PRIME MINISTER TNDMANS, BELGIANS SAID THAT THEY UNDERSTOOD WE WERE OFFERING ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE. THEY SAID THAT THEY HAD A MODEST PROGRAM OF THEIR OWN, MAINLY COMPOSEDOF DEBT RELIEF AT THE MOMENT, BUT THAT THEY WERE HANDICAPPED IN THEIR RELATIONS BY THE FACT THAT BELGIANS IN ZAIRE WERE A KIND OF HOSTAGE. THE BELGIANS FEEL THAT SOME KIND OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL DISCIPLINE HAS TO BE APPLIED SINCE ZAIRE IS GOING BROKE. THEY CANNOT APPLY PRESSURE DIRECTLY THEMSELVES AND THEREFORE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE US IN GIVING ITS ASSISTANCE COULD PUT TOGETHER AN INTERNATIONAL PACKAGE, INCLUDING THE IMF, AS A WAY OF INFLUENCING ZAIRE ECONOMIC POLICIES.

2. THE SECRETARY INDICATED HE WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTIONS TO SUCH AN APPROACH IN THE FUTURE. HE PROMISED TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER WHEN HE RETURNED TO WASHINGTON. HE CONFIRMED THAT WE HAD A TOTAL AID PACKAGE OF \$50 MILLION OF WHICH \$20 MILLION WAS A DEVELOPMENT LOAN REQUIRING SOME CONGRESSIONAL ACTION.

3. MEMORANDUM SHOULD BE PREPARED FOR THE SECRETARY COMMENTING ON THE BELGIAN REMARKS AND MAKING
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RECOMMENDATIONS.

KISSINGER

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